Leakage in Petroleum Storage Tank in Cochin

666. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was any leakage in the Petroleum storage tank in the Cochin Refinery Ltd. recently;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and how much petroleum product was lost due to the leakage;

(c) what preventive action was taken for that leakage; and

(d) the action taken against the authorities therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (CAPTAIN SATISH SHARMA): (a) to (d) There was a leak in bottom plate of one of the crude tanks of Cochin Refineries on 14.11.1995. About 200 Metric Tonnes of crude oil was spilled, but the spilled crude oil was pumped back to other tanks.

CRL is studying the cause of the incident for taking preventive action to avoid recurrence of this type of leak in future.

गुजरात में तेल की खोज

667. **श्री गोपाल सिंह जी. सोलंकी:** क्या पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) सरकार निजी-क्षेत्र के सहयोग से देश के विशेषकर गुजरात के किन-किन स्थानों पर तेल की खोज कराने का विचार रखती है;

(ख) आज की तिथि के अनुसार देश में तेल और प्राकृतिक गैस का प्रतिदिन कितना-कितना उत्पादन होता है; और

(ग) वर्ष 1995-96 और 1996-97 के अन्त तक तेल और प्राकृतिक गैस के उत्पादन में कितनी वृद्धि होने का अनुमान है और इस बारे में सरकारी और निजी क्षेत्रों का पृथक-पृथक ब्यौरा क्या है?

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (कैप्टन सतीश शर्मा): (क) भारत सरकार ने गुजरात में तेल और गैस के अन्वेषण हेतु अब तक निम्नलिखित ब्लाकों के ठेके देने के लिए अनुमोदन दिया है:—

ब्लाक का नाम	बेसिन
1. जी के-ओ एन-90/2	गुजरात कच्छ तटीय क्षेत्र
2. जी के-ओ एस/5	गुजरात कच्छ अपतट
3. सी बी-ओ एन/7	कैम्बे तट क्षेत्र
4. सी बी-ओ एन/2	कैम्बे तटीय क्षेत्र
5. सी बी-ओ एस/1	कैम्बे अपतट
6. सी बी-ओ एस/2	-वही-

(ख) अप्रैल-जनवरी (1995-96) के दौरान देश में कच्चे तेल का उत्पादन लगभग 97000 मीट्रिक टन प्रतिदिन और गैस का उत्पादन लगभग 60 मिलियन मानक घन मीटर प्रतिदिन (एम एम एस सी एम डी) था।

(ग) 1995-96 और 1996-97 के दौरान कच्चे तेल और प्राकृतिक गैस का उत्पादन निम्नानुसार होने की आशा है:-

	कच्चा तेल (एम एम टी)		प्राकृतिक गैस (एम एम एस सी एम डी)	
	सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र	संयुक्त क्षेत्र	सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र	संयुक्त क्षेत्र
1994-95	32.22	—	53	—
1995-96	36.29	0.81	60	—
1996-97	35.82	2.20	62	2

Assistance for Four Laning on National Highway No. 5

668. SHRI RAHASBIHARI BARIK: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are taking steps to expedite the four laning of Cuttak-Bhubaneswar section of National Highway No. 5;

(b) if so, the Central assistance and also external assistance made available for the project so far;

(c) the progress made on the construction of that project; and

(d) the date by which the widening work is expected to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI M. RAJASEKARA MURTHY): (a)

Yes, Sir.

(b) The Central assistance under external aid amounting to Rs. 21.5 crores and Rs. 31.00 crores has been allocated during 1994-95 and 1995-96 respectively.

(c) Physical progress is 4.3% as on 1.1.96.

(d) The target date of completion of the Project is August, 1998.

Activities of Members of United Liberation Front of Assam

669. SHRI TARA CHARAN MAJUMDAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of members of United Liberation Front of Assam have been permitted to retain arms after their surrender;

(b) if so, the names of such members with reasons in each case;

(c) whether a large number of members of U.L.F.A. have been found involved in several crimes after surrender;

(d) if so, the names of such members with crime committed by each such member;

(e) whether some of the surrendered members have been provided with personal security; and

(f) if so, what are their names with reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SYED SIBTEY RAZI): (a) to (f) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Indo-US Defence Relations

670. DR. SHRIKANT RAM CHANDRA JICHKAR:
SHRI RAM RATAN RAM:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of the "agreed minute of Defence relations between India and US" which was signed on January 12, 1995;

(b) what do Government exactly mean by the phrase 'growth of bilateral defence relation would be evolutionary and related to convergence on global and regional issues' in the context of the above mentioned minute; and

(c) What steps are being taken to strengthen the Indo-US relations further?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) The text of the Agreed Minute of Defence Relations between India and the United States is given in the enclosed statement (*see* below).

(b) The plans for expanding Indo-US defence cooperation as contained in the agreed minute should be viewed against the background of the minimal defence relations between India and the US in the past. While recognizing the mutual benefit of closer defence cooperation, both countries share the view that it would not be appropriate to force the pace of such co-operation which will grow in a step-by-step manner. As the degree of convergence and agreement between India and the US on various global and regional issues having a bearing on our respective security concerns increases, the opportunities for Indo-US defence cooperation can be expected to expand.

(c) In the Joint Statement issued during the visit of Prime Minister to Washington in 1994, the two countries agreed to expand the pace and scope of high level exchanges on the full range of political, economic, commercial, scientific, technological and social issues. In accordance with that decision Indo-US relations continue to be intensified and expanded over a very broad front.

Statement

Agreed Minute on Defence Relations Between India and the United States

1. The Governments of India and the United States of America recognise the importance of enhancing our defence cooperation as an important part of our overall bilateral relationship. Following the May 1994 meeting between Prime Minister Rao and President Clinton, a new partnership was directed, Our shared tradition of strong civilian control of